

524,983

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
4 March 2004 (04.03.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/018660 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **C12N 9/00**

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(21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2003/009145

(22) International Filing Date: 15 August 2003 (15.08.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

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(30) Priority Data:
18 Feb 05
02102168.8 19 August 2002 (19.08.2002) EP
02102169.6 19 August 2002 (19.08.2002) EP
02102170.4 19 August 2002 (19.08.2002) EP
02102171.2 19 August 2002 (19.08.2002) EP
02102172.0 19 August 2002 (19.08.2002) EP
02102173.8 19 August 2002 (19.08.2002) EP
02102174.6 19 August 2002 (19.08.2002) EP
02102176.1 19 August 2002 (19.08.2002) EP
02102178.7 19 August 2002 (19.08.2002) EP
02102179.5 19 August 2002 (19.08.2002) EP
02102181.1 19 August 2002 (19.08.2002) EP
02102183.7 19 August 2002 (19.08.2002) EP

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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Published:

— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

WO 2004/018660 A2

(54) Title: NOVEL LIPASES AND USES THEREOF

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a newly identified polynucleotide sequence comprising a gene that encodes a novel lipolytic enzyme from *Aspergillus niger*. The invention features the full length nucleotide sequence of the novel gene, the cDNA sequence comprising the full length coding sequence of the novel lipolytic enzyme as well as the amino acid sequence of the full-length functional protein and functional equivalents thereof. The invention also relates to methods of using these enzymes in industrial processes and methods of diagnosing fungal infections. Also included in the invention are cells transformed with a polynucleotide according to the invention and cells wherein a lipolytic enzyme according to the invention is genetically modified to enhance its activity and/or level of expression.